



Office of the National Ombudsman

Regulatory Fairness Forum for Small Business

Friday, May 2, 2008

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Small business owners will have an opportunity to discuss issues regarding Federal regulatory compliance and enforcement during this Forum.

Have you or a small business owner you know been unfairly fined or penalized by a Federal government agency, or is a Federal agency enforcement action imminent?

WHO: SBA National Ombudsman Nicholas Owens, members of the Region VI Regulatory Fairness Board and representatives of Federal regulatory agencies will hear issues and comments about Federal regulatory enforcement and compliance actions. Small business owners, representatives of trade associations and community and business leaders are invited to participate, comment about compliance and enforcement of regulations by Federal agencies and to learn more about the impact of federal regulations on small businesses.

WHAT: To create a more cooperative regulatory environment among Federal agencies and small businesses, Congress has directed the SBA and the National Ombudsman to hold Regulatory Fairness forums. Issues addressed at this forum will be directed to the appropriate Federal regulatory agency for a higher-level review of fairness than that in the enforcement action. In many instances, the National Ombudsman's action has resulted in Federal agencies reducing or waiving penalties and/or compliance actions in cases of unfair or excessive regulatory enforcement.

WHERE: Central New Mexico Community College's Smith Brasher Building (Auditorium)
(Southwest corner of Coal Street and University Street)
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

WHEN: Friday, May 2, 2008
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Members of the small business community, trade organizations and media are encouraged to attend. RSVPs should be made to the New Mexico SBA District Office at (505) 248-8225 or (505) 248-8236 or by email at john.woosley@sba.gov or susan.chavez@sba.gov before the forum. Small business owners or representatives unable to attend can contact the National Ombudsman for further assistance.

For additional information, visit the Office of the National Ombudsman's website at www.sba.gov/ombudsman, or call 202/205-2417 or Toll Free at 888/REG-FAIR (734-3247)



Make Your Voice Heard!



All of the SBA's programs and services are provided to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made, if requested at least 2 weeks in advance. Contact: (505)248-8225 or (505) 248-8236.